

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT OFFICE OF MR. WM. M. KENDALL,
MCKIM, MEAD AND WHITE, 101 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY,
AT TEN O'CLOCK MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1919. *CONFIDENTIAL*

A committee meeting of members of the Commission met at ten o'clock Monday morning, March 10, 1919, at the office of Mr. William M. Kendall, 101 Park Avenue, New York City, to consider questions arising in connection with the Key, Meade, and Asbury memorials, Meridian Hill Park and the proposed new Pennsylvania Railroad bridge across the Anacostia River.

Mr. Adams, Mr. Weir, Mr. Platt, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Pope and Mr. Greenleaf were present as members of the various committees. Mr. Moore, the Chairman, was present ex-officio. Colonel C. S. Ridley, the Secretary and Executive Officer of the Commission, also attended.

1. INSCRIPTION FOR KEY MEMORIAL. Mr. Platt, Mr. Kendall and Mr. Pope, acting as a committee, recommended that so far as the general arrangement and composition of the inscription proposed for the front of the pedestal of the Francis Scott Key Memorial in Baltimore, Maryland, was concerned, as shown on blueprint P. B. & G. No. this could be approved, but they advised Colonel Ridley, as personal representative of the Secretary of War in the location of this Memorial, that the separate letters of the inscription be restudied, and on a Classical basis.

2. DEFINITE LOCATION FOR THE MEADE MEMORIAL. Mr. Platt, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Pope and Mr. Greenleaf, acting as a committee, recommended the approval of the tracing (P. B. & G. Plan No. ^{3-447.2} ✓) showing the carefully-studied definite location of the Meade Memorial within the Botanic Garden area.

3. REVISED DESIGN FOR NEW PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD BRIDGE. Mr. Pope, acting as a committee, brought up for discussion a revised design for the proposed new Pennsylvania Railroad bridge to span the Anacostia River, which

was submitted by the United States Engineer officer, Washington as a result of the Commission's disapproval of a previous design, and purported to be an improvement over that disapproved design. The subject of design, and the relation of the bridge to its future park surroundings and to probable future bridge on the axis of Massachusetts Avenue was discussed in all its phases. The members did not consider the present design an improvement over the old design, disapproved, and felt that it would be well to get in touch with the engineers of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who were doing the designing, to see whether the engineering requirements, as well as those of good design, could be better combined and perhaps with the adoption of some other style of bridge. Mr. Pope agreed, as a committee, to get in touch with the railroad engineers to talk these matters over so that the problem could be taken up definitely at the next meeting of the Commission to be held in Washington, March 21st next.

4. PLANTING PLAN FOR SECTIONS OF MERIDIAN HILL PARK BY MR. VITALE: Colonel Ridley, as Officer in Charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, had referred to Mr. Greenleaf as a committee for report and recommendation, planting plans Nos. 3 and 4, covering the upper level of Meridian Hill Park, which were prepared by Ferruccio Vitale of New York City. These plans were laid before the other members present by Mr. Greenleaf and carefully explained. Great interest was manifested in the solution of the problems achieved by Mr. Vitale, and only one major criticism was noted by Mr. Greenleaf, namely, that the planting around the lower entrance of Sixteenth Street shown on one of the plans be given more study.

Mr. Greenleaf was asked to get in touch with Mr. Vitale regarding this, so that this section could be further considered. (P. B. & G. Plans Nos. 2-17, 327-129A, 129B.)

5. SIMPLIFICATION OF PLANTING AROUND ARLINGTON MANSIONS.

Mr. Greenleaf, acting as a committee, read to the other members present a letter the Commission had received from Major Lemly, in charge of Arlington Cemetery, which was the result of a letter to Major Lemly from the Chairman of the Commission, calling attention to the desirability of the elimination of the mixed flower beds around the dignified old mansion house and a general restudy of the planting in the vicinity. In the letter Major Lemly stated his cooperation toward such a course and asked the Commission for cooperation. The members agreed with Mr. Greenleaf that many changes for the better could be accomplished by the elimination of the beds and urns, and the substitution of simple box. Mr. Greenleaf, as a committee, will give the matter further study, and a report was held over until the meeting on the 21st.

6. HONOR BARS FOR THE RIBBONS OF MEDALS OF HONOR FOR THE ARMY.

Mr. Adams, acting as a committee, advised the other members present that the War Department had submitted to the Commission samples struck from dies, which, in turn had been reproduced from large-size models furnished the War Department for an insignia to be affixed to the ribbon of the Medal of Honor and a smaller one to the service bar. The design was a stem of oak leaves and acorns, and was to be used where a medal of honor had been awarded and the second or third citation was to be made; in the latter case no second or third medal of honor would be awarded but the above insignia given instead. Mr. Adams recommended the acceptance of the large size sample for the ribbon since it was a good enough reduction,

but that the small size reproduction for the service bar was not satisfactory; the lines were slurred and the whole sample lacked character. These recommendations were presented to the War Department.

In this connection Mr. Adams took occasion to review the situation in regard to the new designs for new medals as it existed in both the War and Navy Departments.

7. After lunch Mr. Moore, Mr. Adams, Mr. Platt, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Pope, Mr. Greenleaf and Colonel Ridley went to the studio of Mr. Lukeman on 55th Street, and inspected there the large-size model prepared by him for the Asbury Memorial to be erected in Washington.

From there they went to the studio and work-shop of Piccirilli Brothers on East 142d Street, and inspected the carving of the statue of Lincoln for the Lincoln Memorial, which was in progress.

Approved: _____

Chairman.

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary & Executive Officer.

